[177 cont.]
with goods to the realm of Bukhara and further, if possible, and likewise to seek to attract merchants from different parts of Asia to come to Russia;

11. To send geodetic specialists with the first caravan to examine places and draw maps;

12. To look for mines as much as possible and to examine the place where, according to Abulkhair, there was supposed to be gold;

13. To seek to establish a port on the Aral Sea and to hold armed vessels there, and to build a few longboats on the Yaik (Ural) River at first to this end, and after having taken them down, to keep them ready at all times with all their gear; and when the city is built and the relations with the Kazaks and Karakalpaks are more stable, to transport [178] these vessels thus dismounted to the Aral Sea during the winter, with the consent of Abulkhair and the Kazak princes, and there to assemble them and arm them with artillery;

14. To buy Kazak horses for the cavalry at favorable moments;

15. To be active in the discovery, exploitation, and sale of metals (excepting gold and silver) which are to be found in the Kazak steppes, according to the principles of trade without losing time in observing forms.

In order to make it easier for Kirilov to execute these orders, everyone everywhere was directed to give him all the help possible.

He was also entrusted with complementary diplomatic instructions, whose ends were:

1. To watch the Bashkirs, among whom there had been frequent disturbances up to that time;

2. To watch the Kazaks likewise;

3. If one group or the other came to an uprising, to use one people against the other in order to spare the Russian troops;

4. To seek to acquire precise information promptly about contiguous peoples;

5. Above all to watch the behavior of the Dzungars, to seek means of putting an end to their raids upon the Siberian colonies, and to divert them from levying tributes on the peoples

[178 cont.]

x 648 called the Dvoedantsy /"payers of double taxes"/. If any movement was noticed on their part, to report it immediately to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and inform the border commanders of it;

●[705] 6. Not to give Abulkhair any help other than powder and arms in the war against the people of Khiva and to give him no auxiliary troops.

We have made it our duty to transcribe here in full the letters patent entrusted to Kirilov for the Middle and the Little Hordes. The first was given to Abulkhair after Kirilov arrived in the area in question. The second [179] could not be delivered because of the death of Khan Shemiaka, to whom it was addressed. Both are presented below.

"We, by the grace of God, Anna, Empress and autocrat of all the Russias, etc., etc.

"To Abulkhair, khan and elder of the Kirghiz-Kazak horde, and to all the Kirghiz-Kazak army, greetings from Our Imperial Majesty.

"It is our hope that the Kirghiz elders, Tatlymbet-Batyr and Baibek-Telengut, who were here with your son Erali and whom we sent, in the company of three Bashkirs, with a gracious letter patent, have already arrived in your presence. This letter patent apprises you, Abulkhair Khan, of our imperial favor toward you and of the fact that your son has been well provided for in our vicinity. And today, we, Great Sovereign and Imperial Majesty, by particular benevolence to you, Abulkhair Khan, our subject, and toward the elders and toward the entire nation of the Kirghiz-Kazaks, have most graciously acceded to your prayer, Abulkhair Khan, and have deigned to send from here our State Councilor Ivan Kirilov and our Colonel Murza Mahmet Tevkelev, and have commanded that a city be built at the mouth of the Ori, and that it be provided with men, artillery, mortars, [712] cannon, and other munitions of war, to protect you and to defend you, our subject, Abulkhair Khan, more easily and quickly, and the elders and all the army, as well as the other khans and elders of the Kirghiz-Kazak and Karakalpak hordes who have submitted